

United States, submitted both the majority and minority reports of the Committee.

The following is the majority report :

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of admitting to seats in this House, persons banned by the proposed 14th article of the Constitution of the United States, respectfully submit the following report :

The claims of the persons who ask to be admitted to their seats, is that the 14th article of the Constitution of the United States has not become a part of the Constitution and is therefore inoperative.

Your Committee suggest that the question, whether the 14th article is a part of said Constitution of the United States is yet undecided.

They also suggest that whether it is a part of the Constitution of the United States or not, it has been adopted by both Houses of the General Assembly, and is, in some sense at least, binding upon them.

It is further to be noticed that the condition precedent upon which this State resumed its place among the States of the Union, or specified in the reconstruction measures and in the bill adopting the Constitution of this State were that no person coming within the restriction of the 14th article should hold office.

For these and other reasons which might be stated, your committee are of the opinion that no person banned by the said 14th article is entitled to a seat in this House, and they therefore report the following resolution.

Resolved, That no person coming within the restriction of the 14th article of the Constitution, whose disabilities have not been removed by Congress is entitled to a seat in this House.

JOSEPH C. ABBOTT,
HIRAM E. STILLEY,
JOSEPH DIXON.

The following is the minority report :